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### ***Kernan Announces Grants to Train 6,710 Workers at Seven Central Indiana Companies***

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that seven central Indiana companies have been awarded training grants from the Indiana Department of Commerce Skills Enhancement Fund.

“Investing in our workforce is fundamental to our state’s future economic success,” said Kernan, who leads the state’s economic development efforts. “We’re proud to support the efforts of companies like these that take the initiative to improve their employees’ skills.”

- **Belkin Components**, Plainfield, has been awarded a \$93,500 grant to train 150 new employees following an \$8.8 million investment to lease a new distribution facility and purchase new equipment. Located in AirTech Park, the company is a leading manufacturer of computer and electronic components and will use the Commerce grant to train employees in English, math and computer skills.
- **Carter-Lee Building Components**, Mooresville, has been awarded a \$20,000 grant to train 39 new employees following the company’s \$3.5 million investment in a new building and equipment. Founded in 1873, the company manufactures trusses and house panels and will use the Commerce grant to train employees in forklift operation, equipment maintenance, blueprint reading and quality control processes.
- **Keihin Indiana Precision Technology**, Greenfield, has been awarded a \$200,000 grant to train 1,051 existing workers following an investment of \$46.6 million in new equipment. Owned by Tokyo-based Keihin Corp., the Hancock County plant produces air and fuel management systems for Honda Motors. Using the grant, employees will be trained in robotics, problem solving, computerized numeric coding, AutoCad, metallurgy, pneumatics, time management, computer operation and quality control.

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- **Marathon Ashland Petroleum (MAP) LLC**, Indianapolis, has been awarded a \$46,300 grant to train 149 existing and 11 new employees at its Indiana distribution terminals, following the company's \$19.4 million investment to expand, modernize and construct new facilities throughout the state. Combining Marathon Oil and Ashland Inc., MAP was formed in 1998 and is a leading downstream petroleum operator, providing refining, marketing and transportation services throughout the nation. Employees will pick up skills in basic formulation, blends and additive math, engineering and computer operation as a result of the grant.
- **Pearson Education, Inc.**, Indianapolis, has been awarded a \$38,500 grant to retrain 220 existing employees and 27 new employees following a \$5.4 million investment in equipment and technology upgrades. The New Jersey-based firm is a leading education publisher and information services company. Using the grant, employees will pick up English, computer, team building, problem solving, forklift operation, electrical and welding skills.
- **Rolls-Royce Corp.**, Indianapolis, has been awarded a \$200,000 grant to train 4,792 incumbent workers following a \$36 million investment in building upgrades and new equipment. A producer of power systems for land, sea and air vehicles, the facility was founded in 1915 as a small machine shop called Allison Speedway. In 1970, the company became part of General Motors Allison Division, and Rolls Royce acquired the division in 1995. The Commerce grant will be used to train employees in shop math, blueprint reading, computer skills, computerized numeric coding, gauging and quality control procedures.
- **SVC Manufacturing, Inc.**, Indianapolis, has been awarded a \$150,000 grant to retrain 131 incumbent and 140 new employees as part of a \$95 million building and production expansion. A subsidiary of the Quaker Oats Co., the facility produces Gatorade and other fluid replacement drinks and will use the grant to train employees in coding, labeling, forklift operation and quality control.

Commerce awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund or other Commerce programs should contact the Business Development Division at 800.463.8081, or visit the Web Site at [www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com).

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